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Qriginal Communications.

Report of a Case of Lacerated Cervix with Trachelorraphy.

[Read before the St. John Medical Society, August the 20th, 1893, by Fosten Mac-FARLANE, M. D.]

This paper may be considered a sequel to one read three years ago, before the New Brunswick Medical Society. The title of that paper was, "Some effects of laceration of the cervix uteri, and the importance of an early operation for its repair."

Before reporting the case I wish to make a few remarks in reference to and in defence of the position I took on that occasion.

In that paper I tried to point out some of the effects such an injury might induce directly upon the uterus and its appendages, or through reflex influence on other organs more remote; and one point I tried to emphasize was inview of its relations to cancer of the uterus. For it has been shown beyond a doubt that there is a transition stage from granular and cystic

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degeneration (and more often the latter) to that of epithelioma in very many cases. Of this we have no doubt. but the point to determine is, when it is benign and when malignant. Even at the present day, with all the light of the most careful pathological research. it is sometimes difficult to decide whether the condition be one of excessive proliferation merely, or whetherthe cell type has changed. Sometimes. the border line is very indistinct, and here the microscope comes into play. If you should ask at what period of life is this change most likely to occur. I would say after the menopause, as this is rightly regarded as the period. of degenerative rather than inflammatory process. When I wrote my former paper I laboured at a disadvantage, owing to the lack of information on the subject at that time. Since then, however, the matter has been pretty well investigated, and consequently a vast amount of literature has accumulated. "so that he that runs may read." I was as fully impressed at the time of writing my former paper with the magnitude of the subject as I am now, owing to-